Claim 6, line 2, delete the first occurrence of "aminoacids" and insert therefor --amino acids--.

Claim 6, line 2, delete the second occurrence of "aminoacids" and insert therefor --amino acids--.

8. (Twice Amended) Peptide according to claim 7, wherein one or more of the [aminoacid] amino acid residues has been exchanged with a residue of an [aminoacid] amino acid having similar size, charge and/polarity, or with [aminoacid] amino acid mimetics resulting in one or more backbone modifications.

REMARKS

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-8, 17 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for purported indefiniteness. Specifically, the Examiner alleges that the term "sequence identity" is indefinite because the algorithm used to generate the percentage sequence identity is not explicitly stated. In response, the following method (algorithm) was used in generation of the "sequence identities" in the specification of the present application:

1. Define the stretches of amino acid sequences to be compared;

2. place the maximum number of amino acids below each other, which may or may not create gaps in either sequence;

1. (Amended) Peptide of 7-30 amino acids corresponding to a part of the [aminoacid] amino acid sequence of a microbial protein having a conserved mammalian stress protein homologue, said part comprising a T cell epitope corresponding to a T cell epitope of the mammalian homologue, wherein the overall [aminoacid] amino acid sequence identity between the microbial and the mammalian homologues is at least 25%, the sequence identity between the microbial and the mammalian homologues of an area of at least 75 consecutive [aminoacids] amino acids is at least 40%, said part comprising:

[5-30 aminoacids] 7-30 amino acids, at least 5 of which are identical with the corresponding [aminoacids] amino acids in the same relative position in a T cell epitope of said mammalian stress protein, said epitope and said part containing at least 4 consecutive [aminoacids] amino acids which are identical with the corresponding mammalian stress protein [aminoacids] amino acids and thereby forming said T cell epitope corresponding to a T cell epitope of the mammalian homologue.

Claim 2, line 1, delete "aminoacid" and insert therefor --amino acid--.

Claim 2, line 4, "aminoacids" and insert therefor --amino acids--.

Claim 5, line 2, delete the first occurrence of "aminoacids" and insert therefor --amino acids--.

Claim 5, line 2, delete the second occurrence of "aminoacids" and insert therefor --amino acids--.